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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 6, 2012

Wick Moorman Chairman and CEO Norfolk Southern Corporation Three Commercial Plaza Norfolk, VA 23510

Dear Mr. Moorman:

I write you in regard to recent correspondence between your staff and the City of Elyria, Ohio concerning a proposal to relocate the city's existing Amtrak station. I appreciate Norfolk Southern's desire to work with stakeholders to make this shift a possibility and I strongly urge continued cooperation to make this proposal reality.

As a long-time resident of Lorain County, I know firsthand the important role freight railroads play in Northern Ohio. Yet, it is imperative that freight and passenger rail coexist in a way that allows travelers easier access to Amtrak service. Moving existing Amtrak service in Elyria to the Lorain County Transit Center—the historic and recently renovated New York Central Railroad station—would provide better service to passengers and create a regional multimodal transportation hub.

Engineering and logistical challenges may arise, but I believe that cost-effective solutions that involve the use of the Lorain County Transit Center, protect passenger and pedestrian safety, and ensure minimal disruption to freight operations can be achieved. Bringing Amtrak to the city center would be a tremendous step forward in our efforts to revitalize downtown Elyria. This solution provides a common sense solution to the problems posed by the current Amtrak station which has no amenities and very little space.

I stand ready to assist in any way possibility to make this project a reality. I look forward to your response and continuing our productive relationship.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown

United State Senator

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